



Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 13, 1998

Ms. E. Cary Grace
Assistant City Attorney
City of Houston
Legal Department
P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-1562

OR98-0455

Dear Ms. Grace:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 113186.

The Houston Police Department (the "department") received an open records request for a particular offense report. You contend that, except for the categories of information specifically made public in *Houston Chronicle Publishing Co. v. City of Houston*, 531 S.W.2d 177 (Tex. Civ. App.--Houston [14th Dist.] 1975), *writ ref'd n.r.e. per curiam*, 536 S.W.2d 559 (Tex. 1976), the requested information is excepted from required public disclosure pursuant to section 552.108 of the Government Code.

Section 552.108(a)(1) of the Government Code excepts from required public disclosure "[i]nformation held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor that deals with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime . . . if . . . release of the information would interfere with the detection, investigation, or prosecution of crime[.]" You indicate that the records at issue pertain to a pending criminal investigation. We conclude that you have met your burden of establishing that the release of the requested information at this time would interfere with law enforcement or prosecution. The department therefore may withhold the information at issue at this time pursuant to section 552.108(a)(1).

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue under the facts presented to us in this request and should not be relied upon as a previous

determination regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet I. Monteros', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Janet I. Monteros
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

JIM/RWP/glg

Ref.: ID# 113186

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Mr. Milton Henderson
5615 Kirby Drive, Suite 530
Houston, Texas 77005
(w/o enclosures)